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## **SYRCL and Community Partners Urge Yuba River Visitors to be Safe**

Nevada City, CA—On Thursday, June 6, 2019, the South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL), Nevada County, California State Parks, Nevada County Sherriff's Office, North San Juan Fire, Nevada County Consolidated Fire, Cal Fire, and Nevada County Search & Rescue, convened at the Highway 49 Bridge, in the South Yuba River State Park, to hold a press conference about the deadly river conditions at the Yuba. Tragic deaths as in past years under similar Yuba River conditions and a need for a united public message that clearly communicates the risks swimmers face, prompted the gathering of these agencies and public safety officials.

This year's record snowpack is melting, causing the river to run cold, strong, and fast. California Department of Water Resources reports the Sierra Nevada snowpack at 162 percent of average, meaning water will be high, fast and cold well into June and July. People need to stay safe by practicing good judgement and staying out of the water. As the weather warms, and the public is increasingly drawn to the river, it is urgent to remind them that it's too dangerous to swim in the Yuba. The North, Middle and South Yuba Rivers cover dozens of miles of recreational opportunities and this community does not have enough public safety personnel to monitor this highly dangerous situation.

Nevada County Consolidated Fire and Nevada County Search & Rescue conducted a mock water rescue demonstration.

Quotes: 5 deaths a year?

**About SYRCL:** The South Yuba River Citizens League is the leading voice for the protection and restoration of the Yuba River watershed. Founded in 1983 through a rural, grassroots campaign to defend the South Yuba River from proposed hydropower dams, SYRCL has developed into a vibrant community organization with over 3,500 members and volunteers based in Nevada City, CA. See: [www.yubariver.org](http://www.yubariver.org)

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